

language; that I will drink no
other quarell or fight with any
intoxicating liquors; that I will
not quarrel or fight with any
one who is not an employee of the firm, and
that I will under no
circumstances, use profane
language; that I will drink no
and Waddell, I am an
employee of Russell, Majors
and Waddell and while I am an
agent of God, before the Great
hereby swear, that during my
the following oath: "I..... do
Waddell and were asked to take
Bible by Russell, Majors and
Express were presented a
Riders joining the Pony
mountains was trained.
The deserts, plains and
deserts miles an hour through
An average speed of 10 and six
just seven days and 17 hours,
completed the 1,966 miles in
previous performances and
riders resolved to surpass all
riders for the message,
California for the anxiety of
inspired by the anxiety of
continued in March 1861.
inaugural speech across the
President Abraham Lincoln's
Pony Express was in getting
The record established by the
Record Run

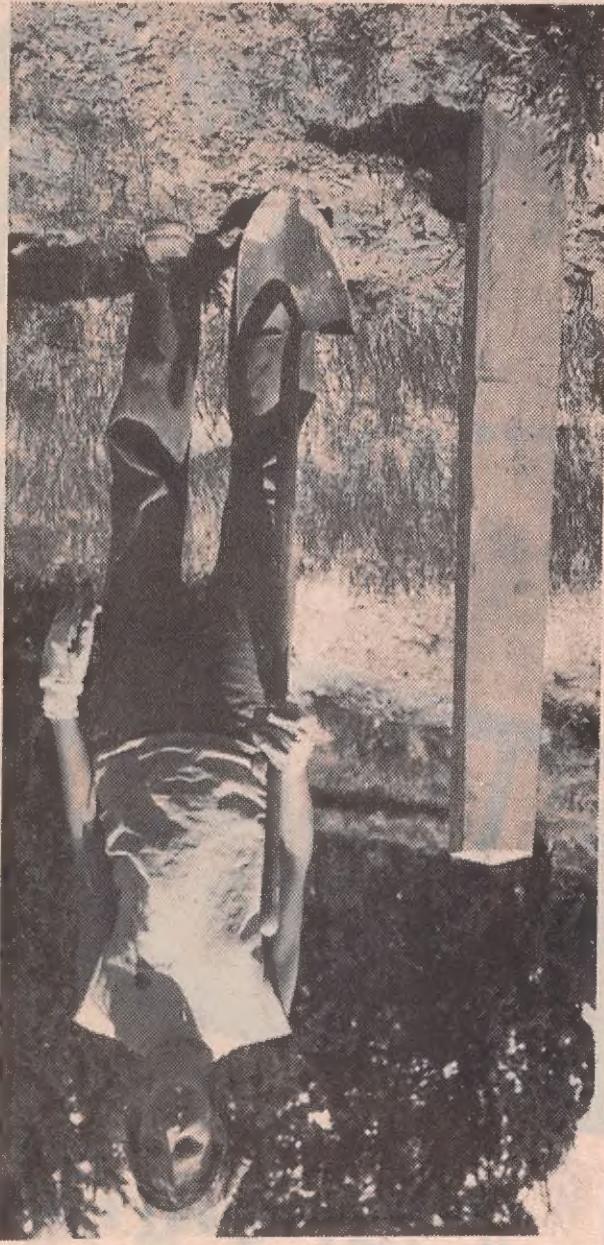
The station man was charged
with having a fresh horse
saddled and ready to go a half
hour before the rider was due.
Two minutes were allowed for
changing horses, but usually
less than half a minute was
spent in getting a fresh horse
in isolation were killed by
many stations operators living
were killed on the trail, but
as \$100 a month. Few riders
assassins were paid as much
month. Station men and their
receiving small bonuses for the
had braved a particular run
\$125 a month with a few who
Most of the mail went from
the West to the East and
consisted of news dispatches and
for eastern newspapers and
for western newspapers in
1861.

went out of business in October
remained there until the line
rate was dropped to \$1 and
for each half-ounce, but the
Postage rates were high at \$5
pounds of mail to be loaded.
commodity allowed up to 20
was carried, although the
average of 15 pounds of mail
and the sweat of horses. An
to protect it from the elements
Mail was wrapped in oil cloth
The bag used for carrying the
bags was less than 14 pounds.
horses were recruited to make
the bags called a moccilia. It fit
over the saddle and had four
pockets which the mail was put in
and the mochilla was transffered by
the rider from one horse to
the rider from another until the trip was
ended.

15-Pound Average
An advertisement describing
the service also carried a small
recruiment notice which
the service also described
elements posing danger down
each trail.
Ad for Riders
1860, express riders rode in the
untamed West with hostile
Indians, menacing white
raiders and the untrustable
elements posing danger down
each trail.



ROUTE OF THE HISTORIC PONY EXPRESS. PICTURED ABOVE IS
THESE BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS "TRAIL MARKERS" ARE LOCATED
THROUGHOUT UTAH'S WESTERN DESERTS AS THEY MARK THE
ROUTE OF THE HISTORIC PONY EXPRESS. PICTURED ABOVE IS
ROBYN BURT, SALT LAKE DISTRICT, BLM.



(Continued from P. 36A)

Pony Express: Its Deeds Live On

1976



PONY EXPRESS Monument at the Willow Springs Station in Tooele County is similar to the one at the Simpson Springs Station. The markers were built in the late 1930's by the Civilian Conservation

Corps to mark the original Pony Express trail across the country. The Willow Springs Station operated from April 3, 1860 until Oct. 27, 1861.

conduct myself honestly, be faithful to my duties, and so direct all my acts as to win the confidence of my employers, so help me God."

On Oct. 18, 1861, oaths, good faith and diligence notwithstanding, the end had come for the Pony Express. On that date in Salt Lake City telegraph wires joining East with West were connected at the telegraph office on Main Street.

The venture lost a lot of money, estimated to be at least \$200,000. It was expensive to maintain, costing more than \$1,000 a day and rarely carrying more than \$1,000 in mails in a single day. Supplies had to be transported to remote way stations and \$75,000 of the company's money was spent fighting an Indian war in Nevada with no help from the government.

For 18 months the Pony Express and its riders faithfully discharged their duties by making 308 runs totaling 616,000 miles and carrying 34,753 letters with only one mochila lost.

